

Additional Information – The Buckingham School – A Level Results Day 2019

Mr McGinnes, Headteacher of The Buckingham School comments on today's results.

I am proud of our students' achievements and have been extremely impressed by their determination, diligence and excellent approach to learning that they have displayed. As a school, we can improve on student outcomes and we can do better, in terms of overall grades.

Once the DfE September checking exercise has been completed, as there are always queries over re-marks and grade boundaries, the official results will be published on the DfE performance tables which can be accessed via the school website.

As well as thanking students for their efforts, I would like to thank my dedicated and hard-working staff who have done so much to support our students both inside the classroom and through our superb pastoral system. I would also like to extend my thanks to parents for their continued support.

Today's results allow our students to follow their chosen pathway, whether that be into higher education, apprenticeships or other meaningful routes into employment. We are delighted that, yet again, a significant number of students (52% of the cohort) will be moving on to university with almost all obtaining their first choice preference. We also see a high percentage of students commencing on highly competitive apprenticeship programmes - this is a great way to start building the foundations of a young person's chosen career path. Alongside this, it is great to see, one of our students taking the new degree Apprenticeship.

I feel privileged to be at the helm of this wonderful school and my first full year has been an exciting one. We have seen many successes and achievements throughout the year and a few bumps along the way. We have addressed the bumps head-on and turned them into positives, such as the re-launch of our now, robust anti-bullying initiative.

As we look forward to the new academic year, I am equally excited by future developments, improvements and plans underway for the school.

I have been keen to build the future of the school around the standards already reached, but also to ensure that the vision for the future is one based around a desired culture. I do not seek a uniformity in what we do but a conformity to the school's Vision and Mission. We do not all have to do things the same way but we do need to "buy in". I am regularly heard saying that there is so much more to The Buckingham School than exam results, but what is the character that we strive so hard to develop?

As such, all school staff launched a huge piece of work to develop seven virtues that we seek to embed in our students. The students have subsequently been involved in discussions around what the virtues mean to them. There is so much more to come on this in the new academic year. We will be opening the year focussing on Ambition and Curiosity.

Next year will also be very much about the promotion of the mental health and well-being of our whole community. We strive to become a Trauma Informed School – a school of thought which centres on the desirability of positive relationships, predictable structures and self-regulation. We are also in the coming year launching the Peer Education Programme, building on the school's strong tradition of student-student mentoring.

There is so much potential here at The Buckingham School and we are committed to building every opportunity that we can to ensure that our students get every opportunity to progress.

We strongly believe our Sixth Form provides a wonderful opportunity for students to truly fulfil their potential in a caring and vibrant community and we look forward to more students joining us.

Our Sixth Form curriculum is wide, with a variety of traditional academic A Levels and vocational BTEC qualifications, as well as a breadth of enrichment opportunities beyond the classroom. For those Year 11 students who are undecided on their Post 16 education pathway, there's still time to apply for the 2019/20 academic year. For further information and to learn more, please contact chubner@buckinghamsschool.org

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